

What is claimed is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1;
  - (b) a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 30 to nucleotide 539;
  - (c) a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 99 to nucleotide 539;
  - (d) a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of the full-length protein coding sequence of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357;
  - (e) a polynucleotide encoding the full-length protein encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357;
  - (f) a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of the mature protein coding sequence of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357;
  - (g) a polynucleotide encoding the mature protein encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357;
  - (h) a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (i) a polynucleotide encoding a protein comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 having biological activity, the fragment comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid 80 to amino acid 89 of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (j) a polynucleotide which is an allelic variant of a polynucleotide of (a)-(g) above;
  - (k) a polynucleotide which encodes a species homologue of the protein of (h) or (i) above ; and
  - (l) a polynucleotide capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to any one of the polynucleotides specified in (a)-(i).
2. The polynucleotide of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide is operably linked to at least one expression control sequence.

3. A host cell transformed with the polynucleotide of claim 2.
4. The host cell of claim 3, wherein said cell is a mammalian cell.
5. A process for producing a protein encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 2, which process comprises:
  - (a) growing a culture of the host cell of claim 3 in a suitable culture medium; and
  - (b) purifying said protein from the culture.
6. A protein produced according to the process of claim 5.
7. The protein of claim 6 comprising a mature protein.
8. A protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
  - (a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 24 to amino acid 140;
  - (c) fragments of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid 80 to amino acid 89 of SEQ ID NO:2; and
  - (d) the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357;the protein being substantially free from other mammalian proteins.
9. The protein of claim 8, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
10. The protein of claim 8, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid 24 to amino acid 140.
11. A composition comprising the protein of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. A method for preventing, treating or ameliorating a medical condition which comprises administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition of claim 11.

13. An isolated gene corresponding to the cDNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

14. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

15. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 30 to nucleotide 539.

16. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of the full-length protein coding sequence of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357.

17. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes the full-length protein encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357.

18. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of the mature protein coding sequence of BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357.

19. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes the mature protein encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357.

20. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

21. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a protein comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 having

biological activity, the fragment comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid 80 to amino acid 89 of SEQ ID NO:2.

22. The protein of claim 8, wherein the protein comprises a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 having biological activity, the fragment comprising the amino acid sequence from amino acid 80 to amino acid 89 of SEQ ID NO:2.

23. The protein of claim 8, wherein the protein comprises the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of clone BA3.1 deposited under accession number ATCC 98357.

24. The polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 from nucleotide 99 to nucleotide 539.